

With the Alumni

LETTER FROM MINEAR.

We print the following letter through the courtesy of Prof. Kyle. Mr. Minear is a '05 man. He is superintendent of the public school gardens in San Antonio:

San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 24, '06.
Prof. E. J. Kyle, College Station, Texas:

My Dear Professor—I have not written to you because I knew you were going to Colorado on a vacation trip, but I suppose you have returned and are ready for the opening of school. I began preparing my gardens two weeks before the schools opened. When the schools opened I began to rush my department as much as possible, but on account of many principals being transferred, they also had all they could do, and in spite of all I could do it seemed as if I was going to have late fall gardens as last year. Prof. Wolfe, seeing the great amount of work I had on hand, came to my assistance, and for about six days we had over 400 children in the gardens each day. By last Wednesday night all gardens were practically planted and in good shape. A good rain fell the following day (Thursday), and the gardens are now getting green and pretty with the plantlets.

I am striving to make the work more educative this year and have far better results.

I am taking advantage of the opportunity of having an exhibit at the fair, with more than one point of view. This does not only afford an opportunity of illustrating what is being done along the line of school gardening, but it is a golden opportunity of making the work educative.

How? I have distributed the nitrate of soda you gave me equally among the schools, with circulars telling what it is, how to use it and what results are to be expected. Four boxes have been given to each school, and the principals advised to have spinach or lettuce planted in two of them, nitrate of soda applied to one, and the other used for comparison.

This will illustrate to the child one element essential to plant life (nitrogen), and will impress it upon the mind in such a manner that will never be forgotten. It will improve the scope of observation, watching the foliage change to a dark green color, and the vigorous growth, and show how we can control plant life. At the opening of the fair the various schools will exhibit the experiment and a total comparison will be made.

Each school will make a collection of insects found in and about the garden, and every insect will be labeled, which will cause the child to become familiar with the names and habit. Weeds will also be collected with same results. One can see what is to be gained. I am going to exhibit a miniature garden as a model garden, with a

sample of soil from each garden.

I will let you know from time to time how I get along with this work. I remain,

Yours very truly,

S. A. MINEAR.

117 Fourth St.

THE POST GRADUATE CLASS

A step which we hope will tend toward the advancement of the A. & M. College was taken last night, when the first Post Graduate Class organization in its history was perfected.

The following officers were elected: John C. Cruse, A. '05, President; H. S. Woods, E. E. '05, Vice-President; R. J. Potts, C. E. '06, Secretary-Treasurer; Louis Z. Gugenheim, E. E. '06, Historian. There are nine members in the class. Elmer Carlyle, A. '06; Jno. C. Cruse, A. '05; Leo Ehlinger, C. E. '06; Louis Z. Gugenheim, E. E. '06; Lamar McLennan, A. '05; R. J. Potts, C. E. '06; R. E. Schiller, C. E. '06; H. S. Woods, E. E. '05; Will V. Glass, A. '05.

ALUMNI NOTES.

L. G. Lenert, C. E. '06, was a visitor on the campus Sunday.

A postal to W. G. Moore from W. E. Japhet, C. E. '04, who is now at Cornell University as a student, informs us that Jerome Cochran, C. E. '04, is no longer a bachelor.

R. L. Brandt, M. E. '06, has resigned his position in the steam plant here. He will be employed as draftsman in the Lufkin Machine and Foundry Co., Lufkin, Texas.

Herbert Brinkman, M. E. '06, who is taking Senior work in electrical engineering, has been employed as student instructor in the M. E. department.

T. S. Jobson, M. E. '03, is Acting Signal Superintendent of the Morgan's Louisiana & Texas Ry., with headquarters at Morgan City.

E. C. Arnold, M. E. '06, is teaching in the public schools at Marlin.

We were sorry to hear that G. C. Street, A. '05, was painfully injured in an automobile accident in Louisiana.

L. Gugenheim, E. E. '06, is now the Alumni Editor of the Battalion.

V. M. Ehlers, C. E. '05, is doing construction work for the Louisiana Central Ry. His headquarters are at Pickering, La.

The following are with the San Saba Valley Railroad Company: J. W. Carter, C. E. '04, as instrument man; H. A. Washburn, C. E. '06, as level-rod man; L. L. Ballard, '05, as lineman.

BUILDING A NEW TOWN.

Continued from page 1

lusa, destined to be the greatest and the model saw mill town of the world.

The new town already shows what unlimited capital, backed by long experience in the lumber business, can do.

Less than a year ago, when the Good-year interests, controlling the Buffalo and Susquehanna Railroad in New York state, began to secure control of the timber lands of the Florida Parishes of Louisiana, there was a great hue and cry about the organization of a lumber trust. The men who were buying the timber lands which had remained undeveloped for so many years said nothing, and continued to buy lands. Now the men in that section who were most loud in their abuse say that the Good-year interests, through the New Orleans Great Northern Railroad, have done more to promote the prosperity of the Pearl River Valley than all other enterprises combined, and are now co-operating with the Great Southern Lumber Company, the name adopted by the Goodyears for their lumber company, in every way possible.

In the past nine months the Goodyears have either purchased outright or have secured the timber rights on something over 500,000 acres of the finest timber lands in South Louisiana, most of them being located in St. Tammany and Washington Parishes. An official of the Company last week said that when the lands were purchased it was supposed that there was little on them but yellow pine timber. Now, he says, on close investigation, it has been found that the yellow pine timber is almost equalled by the hardwood, which is much more valuable.

Now, after these same interests have decided to build the largest saw mill in the world, with a capacity of 600,000 feet of lumber every day, it is believed that it will require at least thirty-five years to cut off the timber on these half-million acres.

Several months were spent by the Goodyears in the selection of a site for their saw mill from which every part of their vast timber territory could be easily reached. The decision finally settled on a high plateau between the Bogue Chitto and the Bogue Lusa, both beautiful little streams emptying into Pearl river.

No sooner was the decision of the site of the new town made than the New Orleans Great Northern Railroad was rushed to that place and several miles northward of it. The engineers went over the ground and began the planning of a model town. The results of their preliminary work are just now beginning to show. To be truthful, it must be said that almost all the buildings which are on the ground at the present time look rather crude. At the same time it must be remembered that it has been but about three months since the railroad reached the town site, and active work could be begun. In view of that fact the development is remarkable. Instead of a pine forest there is now a thoroughly-cleared space of 800 acres. The railroad passes through the center, with switch tracks breaking off from the main line every fifty feet. A saw mill is working night and day to turn out the lumber needed for the new buildings. Over a hundred houses of various sizes have been completed and are now occupied by the workmen on the other plans of the company. More men are being brought in daily and are being housed in tents.

A boarding house to accommodate 200 people is practically completed and will be ready for occupancy by Sept. 10. The foundation for the big power house, which will furnish power to all the town, is now almost completed, and the superstructure will be completed within thirty days. The steel for the saw mill is already on the ground. Steam dredges are running night and day in the Bogue Lusa, taking out the sand and gravel needed in the foundations of the new buildings. Engineers and surveyors are laying out the streets of what is to be the future city.

This is but a part of what has already been accomplished.

Today the town site of Bogalusa presents a busy scene. Over seven hundred men are at work there. There is not a moment when the loud report of exploding dynamite does not tell of the clearing up of the land. Railroad tracks are being laid in every direction. New cars and new machinery are being brought in on every train.

The work at Bogalusa is just beginning. Another thousand men are to be put to work there this month, and by Oct. 1 the officials of the company believe that they will have enough to show for their work to be able to call Bogalusa a town. This is what has actually been accomplished in the past few months.

The town is laid out for a city of 10,000 people, and is supposed to be ready for their reception before the first of the year. Mr. W. H. Sullivan, who is in charge of the entire work, says that it will be ready.

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